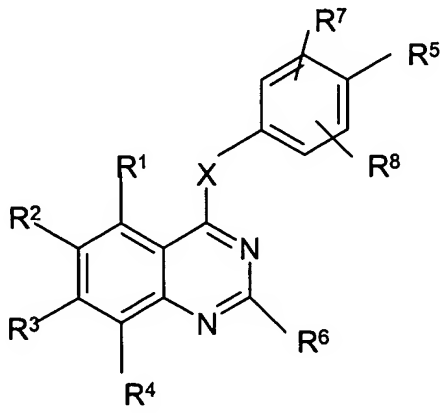
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating colorectal or breast cancer in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount ~~The use~~ of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

or a salt, ester, or amide ~~or prodrug~~ thereof;

where X is O, or S, S(O) or $S(O)_2$, NH or NR^{12} where R^{12} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^5 is selected from a group $NHC(O)OR^9$, $NHC(O)R^9$, $NHS(O)_2R^9$, $C(O)R^9$, $C(O)OR^9$, $S(O)R^9$, $S(O)OR^9$, $S(O)_2OR^9$, $C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $S(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $S(O)ONR^{10}R^{11}$;

where R^9, R^{10} or R^{11} are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl and optionally substituted heterocyclyl and R^{10} and R^{11} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may additionally form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms;

R^6 is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl,

C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, -N(OH)R^{13}- (wherein R^{13} is hydrogen, or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $R^{15}X^1$- [[(]]wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH_2-, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{16}CO-, -CONR^{16}-, -SO_2NR^{16}-, -$NR^{17}SO_2$- or -NR^{18}- (wherein R^{16}, R^{17} and R^{18} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{15} is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy.[[;]]

~~in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibtion of aurora-2 kinase.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method~~use~~ according to claim 1 wherein in the compound of formula (I), at least one group R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 is a group $R^{15}X^1$- and R^{15} is hydrogen, an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl or cycloalkynyl, or combinations thereof; or an optionally substituted heterocyclyl group of from 4 to 20 ring atoms, at least one of which is a heteroatom ~~such as~~ oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen and where the optional substituents comprise at least one functional group selected from nitro, cyano, halo, oxo, $=CR^{78}R^{79}$, $C(O)_xR^{77}$, OR^{77}, $S(O)_yR^{77}$, $NR^{78}R^{79}$, $C(O)NR^{78}R^{79}$, $OC(O)NR^{78}R^{79}$, $=NOR^{77}$, $-NR^{77}C(O)_xR^{78}$, $-NR^{77}CONR^{78}R^{79}$, $-N=CR^{78}R^{79}$, $S(O)_yNR^{78}R^{79}$ or $-NR^{77}S(O)_yR^{78}$ where R^{77}, R^{78} and R^{79} are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy, or R^{78} and R^{79} together form an optionally substituted ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms ~~such as~~ oxygen, nitrogen, S, S(O) or $S(O)_2$, where x is an integer of 1 or 2, y is 0 or an integer of 1-3.

3. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to claim 2 where hydrocarbyl, heterocyclyl or alkoxy groups R^{77}, R^{78} and R^{79} as well as rings formed by R^{78} and R^{79} are optionally substituted by halo, perhaloalkyl, mercapto, alkylthio, hydroxy, carboxy, alkoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkynyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkoxyalkoxy, aryloxy (where the aryl group may be substituted by halo, nitro, or hydroxy), cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di-alkyl amino, oximino or $S(O)_yR^{90}$ where y is as defined above and R^{90} is a alkyl.

4. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to any one of the preceding claims wherein in the compound of formula (I) at least one group R^1, R^2, R^3 or R^4 is a group X^1R^{15} and R^{15} is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:
1) hydrogen or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more functional groups;
2) $-R^aX^2C(O)R^{19}$ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{20}$- (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{19} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^{21}R^{22}$ or $-OR^{23}$ (wherein R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group));
3) $-R^bX^3R^{24}$ (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{25}C(O)_s$-, $-C(O)NR^{26}$-, $-SO_2NR^{27}$-, $-NR^{28}SO_2$- or $-NR^{29}$- (wherein R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28} and R^{29} each independently represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group and s is 1 or 2) and R^{24} represents hydrogen, hydrocarbyl ~~(as defined herein)~~ or a saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the hydrocarbyl or heterocyclic groups may be optionally substituted by one or more functional groups and the heterocyclic groups may additionally be substituted by a hydrocarbyl group);
4) $-R^cX^4R^{c'}X^5R^{30}$ (wherein X^4 and X^5 which may be the same or different are each -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{31}C(O)_s$-, $-C(O)_xNR^{32}$-, $-SO_2NR^{33}$-, $-NR^{34}SO_2$- or $-NR^{35}$- (wherein R^{31}, R^{32}, R^{33}, R^{34} and R^{35} each independently represents hydrogen or alkyl optionally substituted by a functional group and s is 1 or 2) and R^{30} represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted by a functional group);

5) R^{36} wherein R^{36} is a C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or saturated heterocyclic ring (linked via carbon or nitrogen), which cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl or heterocyclyl group which hydrocarbyl or heterocyclyl group may be optionally substituted by one or more functional groups;

6) $-R^dR^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

7) $-R^eR^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

8) $-R^f R^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

9) R^{37} (wherein R^{37} represents a pyridone group, an aryl group or an aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally susbstituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups);

10) $-R^gR^{37}$ (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

11) $-R^hR^{37}$ (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

12) $-R^i R^{37}$ (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

13) $-R^j X^6R^{37}$ (wherein X^6 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{42}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{43}-$, $-SO_2NR^{44}-$, $-NR^{45}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{46}-$ (wherein R^{42}, R^{43}, R^{44}, R^{45} and R^{46} each independently represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

14) $-R^kX^7R^{37}$ (wherein X^7 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{47}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{48}-$, $-SO_2NR^{49}-$, $-NR^{50}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{51}-$ (wherein R^{47}, R^{48}, R^{49}, R^{50} and R^{51} each independently represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

15) $-R^mX^8R^{37}$ (wherein X^8 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{52}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{53}-$, $-SO_2NR^{54}-$, $-NR^{55}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{56}-$ (wherein R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55} and R^{56} each independently represents hydrogen, ~~hydrogen,~~ or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

16) $-R^n X^9R^{n'}R^{37}$ (wherein X^9 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{57}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{58}-$, $-SO_2NR^{59}-$, $-NR^{60}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{61}-$ (wherein R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60} and R^{61} each independently represents hydrogen, ~~hydrogen,~~ or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

17) $-R^p X^9-R^{p'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore);

18) C_{2-5}alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more functional groups;

19) C_{2-5}alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more functional groups;

20) $-R^tX^9R^{t'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore);

21) $-R^u X^9 R^{u'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore); and

22) - $R^v R^{62}(R^{v'})_q(X^9)_rR^{63}$(wherein X^9 is as defined hereinbefore, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R^{62} is a C_{1-3}alkylene group or a cyclic group selected from divalent cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3}alkylene group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups; and R^{63} is hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, or a cyclic group selected from cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group may be substituted by one or more may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups);

and wherein R^a, R^b, R^c, $R^{c'}$, R^d, R^g, R^j, R^n, $R^{n'}$ R^p, $R^{p'}$, $R^{t'}$, $R^{u'}$, R^v and $R^{v'}$ are independently selected from C_{1-8}alkylene groups optionally substitued by one or more substituents functional groups,

R^e R^h, R^k and R^t are independently selected from C_{2-8}alkenylene groups optionally substituted by one or more functional groups, and

R^f, R^i, R^m and R^u are independently selected from C_{2-8}alkynylene groups optionally substituted by one or more functional groups.

5. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to claim 1[[4]] wherein in the compound of formula (I) at least one group R^1, R^2, R^3 or R^4 is a group X^1R^{15} and R^{15} is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:

1) hydrogen or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, oxiranyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, ~~and~~ amino, ~~(including~~ C_{1-3}alkyl and trifluoromethyl~~)~~;

2) $-R^aX^2C(O)R^{19}$ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{20}$- (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{19} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^{21}R^{22}$ or $-OR^{23}$ (wherein R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-5}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-5}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

3) $-R^bX^3R^{24}$ (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{25}C(O)_s$-, $-NR^{25}C(O)NR^{26}$-, $-C(O)NR^{26}$-, $-SO_2NR^{27}$-, $-NR^{28}SO_2$- or $-NR^{29}$- (wherein R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28} and R^{29} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl and s is 1 or 2) and R^{24} represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, or a cyclic groups selected from cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-6}alkyl group may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyclopropyl, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di-C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group $-(-O-)_f(R^{b'})_gD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a C_{3-6}cycloalkyl group, an aryl or a 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from halo or C_{1-4}alkyl));

4) $-R^cX^4R^{c'}X^5R^{30}$ (wherein X^4 and X^5 which may be the same or different are each -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$-, $-NR^{31}C(O)_s$-, $-C(O)_xNR^{32}$-, $-SO_2NR^{33}$-, $-NR^{34}SO_2$- or $-NR^{35}$- (wherein R^{31}, R^{32}, R^{33}, R^{34} and R^{35} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl and s is 1 or 2) and R^{30} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl);

5) R^{36} (wherein R^{36} is a 4-6-membered cycloalkyl or saturated heterocyclic ring (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N,

which cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl, cyanoC_{1-4}alkyl, cyclopropyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, nitro, amino, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)NR^{38}R^{39}$, $-NR^{40}C(O)R^{41}$ (wherein R^{38}, R^{39}, R^{40} and R^{41}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a cyclic group selected from C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from halo and C_{1-4}alkyl));

6) $-R^dR^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

7) $-R^eR^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

8) $-R^fR^{36}$ (wherein R^{36} is as defined hereinbefore);

9) R^{37} (wherein R^{37} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, nitro, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, oxo, cyanoC_{1-4}alkyl, cyclopropyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, carboxy, carboxamido, trifluoromethyl, cyano, $-C(O)NR^{38}R^{39}$, $-NR^{40}C(O)R^{41}$ (wherein R^{38}, R^{39}, R^{40} and R^{41}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a cyclic group selected from C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from halo and C_{1-4}alkyl));

10) $-R^gR^{37}$ (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

11) $-R^hR^{37}$ (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

12) -R^i R^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

13) -R^j X^6R^{37} (wherein X^6 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -OC(O)-, -NR^{42}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{43}-, -SO_2NR^{44}-, -$NR^{45}SO_2$- or -NR^{46}- (wherein R^{42}, R^{43}, R^{44}, R^{45} and R^{46} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

14) -$R^kX^7R^{37}$ (wherein X^7 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{47}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{48}-, -SO_2NR^{49}-, -$NR^{50}SO_2$- or -NR^{51}- (wherein R^{47}, R^{48}, R^{49}, R^{50} and R^{51} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

15) -$R^mX^8R^{37}$ (wherein X^8 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{52}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{53}-, -SO_2NR^{54}-, -$NR^{55}SO_2$- or -NR^{56}- (wherein R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55} and R^{56} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

16) -R^n $X^9R^{n'}R^{37}$ (wherein X^9 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{57}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{58}-, -SO_2NR^{59}-, -$NR^{60}SO_2$- or -NR^{61}- (wherein R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60} and R^{61} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

17) -R^p X^9-$R^{p'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore);

18) C_{2-5}alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, carboxy [[(]]and ~~particularly~~ alkyl esters thereof,[[)]] N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

19) C_{2-5}alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

20) -$R^tX^9R^{t'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore);

21) -R^u X^9 $R^{u'}R^{36}$ (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined hereinbefore); and

22) - R^v $R^{62}(R^{v'})_q(X^9)_rR^{63}$(wherein X^9 is as defined hereinbefore, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R^{62} is a C_{1-3}alkylene group or a cyclic group selected from cyclopropylene, cyclobutylene, cyclopentylene, cyclohexylene or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkylene

group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a cyclic group selected from C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from halo and C_{1-4}alkyl); and R^{63} is hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, or a cyclic group selected from cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a cyclic group selected from C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, aryl or 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from halo and C_{1-4}alkyl));

and wherein R^a, R^b, $R^{b'}$, R^c, $R^{c'}$, R^d, R^g, R^j, R^n, $R^{n'}$ R^p, $R^{p'}$, $R^{t'}$, $R^{u'}$, R^v and $R^{v'}$ are independently selected from C_{1-8}alkylene groups optionally substitued by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino[[,]];

R^e R^h, R^k and R^t are independently selected from C_{2-8}alkenylene groups optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, and R^t may additionally be a bond;

R^f, R^i, R^m and R^u are independently selected from C_{2-5}alkynylene groups optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino.

6. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1 wherein in the compound of formula (I), R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from, halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$ (wherein R^{13} and R^{14}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $-X^1R^{15}$ (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2-$, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{16}CO-$, $-CONR^{16}-$, $-SO_2NR^{16}-$, $-NR^{17}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{18}-$ (wherein R^{16}, R^{17} and R^{18} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{15} is selected from one of the following groups:

1') hydrogen or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro or amino;

2') C_{1-5}alkylX^2COR^{19} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{20}$ - (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{19} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR[[1]]^{21}R^{22}$ or $-OR^{23}$ (wherein R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

3') C_{1-5}alkylX^3R^{24} (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OCO-, $-NR^{25}CO-$, $-CONR^{26}-$, $-SO_2NR^{27}-$, $-NR^{28}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{29}-$ (wherein R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28} and R^{29} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{24} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy);

4') C_{1-5}alkylX^4C_{1-5}alkylX^5R^{30} (wherein X^4 and X^5 which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{31}CO-$, $-CONR^{32}-$, $-SO_2NR^{33}-$, $-NR^{34}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{35}-$ (wherein R^{31}, R^{32}, R^{33}, R^{34} and R^{35} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{30} represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl);

5') R^{36} (wherein R^{36} is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl and C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl);

6') C_{1-5}alkylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

7') C_{2-5}alkenylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

8') C_{2-5}alkynylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

9') R^{37} (wherein R^{37} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, $-CONR^{38}R^{39}$ and $-NR^{40}COR^{41}$ (wherein R^{38}, R^{39}, R^{40} and R^{41}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

10') C_{1-5}alkylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

11') C_{2-5}alkenylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

12') C_{2-5}alkynylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

13') C_{1-5}alkylX^6R^{37} (wherein X^6 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{42}CO-$, $-CONR^{43}-$, $-SO_2NR^{44}-$, $-NR^{45}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{46}-$ (wherein R^{42}, R^{43}, R^{44}, R^{45} and R^{46} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

14') C_{2-5}alkenylX^7R^{37} (wherein X^7 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{47}CO-$, $-CONR^{48}-$, $-SO_2NR^{49}-$, $-NR^{50}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{51}-$ (wherein R^{47}, R^{48}, R^{49}, R^{50} and R^{51} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

15') C_{2-5}alkynylX^8R^{37} (wherein X^8 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{52}CO-$, $-CONR^{53}-$, $-SO_2NR^{54}-$, $-NR^{55}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{56}-$ (wherein R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55} and R^{56} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

16') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{37} (wherein X^9 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{57}CO-$, $-CONR^{58}-$, $-SO_2NR^{59}-$, $-NR^{60}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{61}-$ (wherein R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60} and R^{61} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore); and

17') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{36} (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined in (5') above).

7. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 6 wherein in the compound of formula (I), R^1 is hydrogen and R^4 is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-4}alkoxy.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 5 wherein in the compound of formula (I), R^3 is a group X^1R^{15} where X^1 is oxygen and R^{15} is a group (1), (3), (6), (10) or (22) as defined in claim 5~~includes a methylene group directly adjacent X^1~~.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 6 wherein in the compound of formula (I), R^5 is a group $NHC(O)R^9$ or $NHS(O)_2R^9$, where R^9 is selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl and optionally substituted heterocyclyl~~as defined in claim 1~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to ~~any one of~~ claims ~~61 to 11~~ wherein in the compound of formula (I), R^5 is a group $C(O)R^9$, $C(O)OR^9$, $S(O)R^9$, $S(O)OR^9$, $S(O)_2OR^9$, $C(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$, $S(O)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or $S(O)ONR^{10}R^{11}$ where R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl and optionally substituted heterocyclyl and R^{10} and R^{11} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may additionally form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms~~as defined in claim 1~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The methoduse according to claim 12 or claim 13 wherein R^9, R^{10} or R^{11} are independently selected from aryl optionally substituted with one or more functional groups;
C_{3-6}cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more functional groups;
aralkyl optionally substituted with one or more functional groups and wherein the aryl portion may further comprise one or more alkyl substituents;

heterocyclyl optionally substituted with one or more functional, alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl groups;

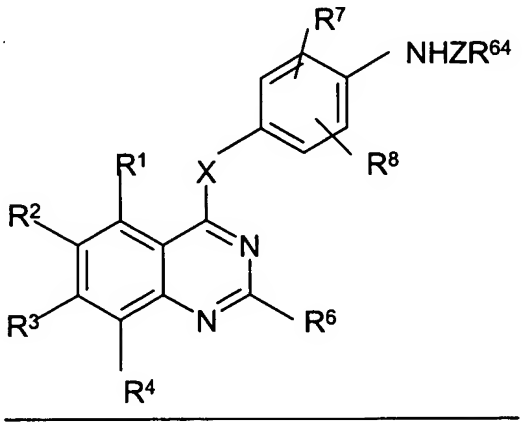
alkyl optionally substituted by a functional group or a cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl group wherein the cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl group may themselves be optionally substituted with one or more functional or alkyl groups;

alkenyl optionally substituted by a functional group or an aryl or heterocyclyl group wherein the aryl or heterocyclyl group may be optionally substituted with one or more functional or alkyl groups; and

alkynyl optionally substituted by a functional group or an aryl or heterocyclyl group wherein the aryl or heterocyclyl group may be optionally substituted with one or more functional group or alkyl groups.

15-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIA) ~~which comprises a compound of formula (II) as defined in claim 15~~



~~,~~ or a salt, ester~~,~~ or amide ~~or prodrug~~ thereof,

where X is O, or S, S(O) or $S(O)_2$, or NR^{12} where R^{12} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

Z is C(O) or $S(O)_2$,

R^{64} is optionally substituted hydrocarbyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl

R^6 is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino,

C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, -N(OH)R^{13}- (wherein R^{13} is hydrogen, or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $R^{15}X^1$- (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH_2-, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{16}CO-, -$CONR^{16}$-, -SO_2NR^{16}-, -$NR^{17}SO_2$- or -NR^{18}- (wherein R^{16}, R^{17} and R^{18} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{15} is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy;

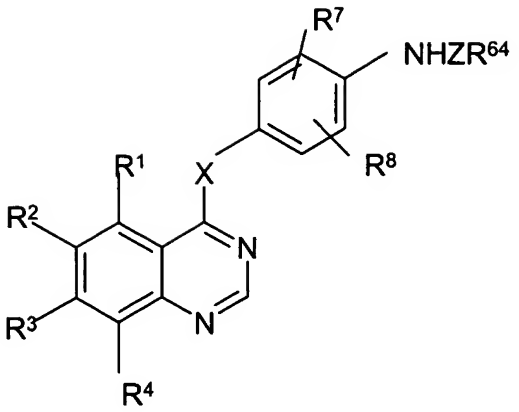
provided that

(i) where R^1, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are all hydrogen and R^2 and R^3 are both hydrogen or both methoxy, R^{64} is other than phenyl;

(ii) where R^1, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are all hydrogen and R^2 and R^3 are methoxy, and Z is C(O), R^{64} is other than methyl;

(iii) where R^1, R^2[[$^+$]], R^3, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are all hydrogen, X is oxygen, R^6 is 4-methyl -1- piperazinyl and Z is C(O)[[,]] and R^{64} is other than methyl.

20. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (IIC)



~~as defined in claim 16~~ or a salt, ester or amide thereof,

where X is O, or S, S(O) or $S(O)_2$ or NR^8 where R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

Z is C(O) or $S(O)_2$,

R^{64} is optionally substituted hydrocarbyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, di(C_{1-4}alkoxy)methyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, and

where R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, -$NR^{13}R^{14}$ (wherein R^{13} and R^{14}, which may be the same or

different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl), or $-X^1R^{15}$ (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2-$, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{16}CO-$, $-CONR^{16}-$, $-SO_2NR^{16}-$, $-NR^{17}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{18}-$ (wherein R^{16}, R^{17} and R^{18} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{15} is selected from one of the following groups:

1') hydrogen or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro or amino;

2') C_{1-5}alkylX^2COR^{19} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{20}-$ (in which R^{20} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{19} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^{21}R^{22}$ or $-OR^{23}$ (wherein R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

3') C_{1-5}alkylX^3R^{24} (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -OCO-, $-NR^{25}CO-$, $-CONR^{26}-$, $-SO_2NR^{27}-$, $-NR^{28}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{29}-$ (wherein R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28} and R^{29} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{24} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy);

4') C_{1-5}alkylX^4C_{1-5}alkylX^5R^{30} (wherein X^4 and X^5 which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{31}CO-$, $-CONR^{32}-$, $-SO_2NR^{33}-$, $-NR^{34}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{35}-$ (wherein R^{31}, R^{32}, R^{33}, R^{34} and R^{35} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{30} represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl);

5') R^{36} (wherein R^{36} is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl and C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl);

6') C_{1-5}alkylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

7') C_{2-5}alkenylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

8') C_{2-5}alkynylR^{36} (wherein R^{36} is as defined in (5') above);

9') R^{37} (wherein R^{37} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, $-CONR^{38}R^{39}$ and $-NR^{40}COR^{41}$ (wherein R^{38}, R^{39}, R^{40} and R^{41}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

10') C_{1-5}alkylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

11') C_{2-5}alkenylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

12') C_{2-5}alkynylR^{37} (wherein R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

13') C_{1-5}alkylX^6R^{37} (wherein X^6 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{42}CO-$, $-CONR^{43}-$, $-SO_2NR^{44}-$, $-NR^{45}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{46}-$ (wherein R^{42}, R^{43}, R^{44}, R^{45} and R^{46} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

14') C_{2-5}alkenylX^7R^{37} (wherein X^7 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{47}CO-$, $-CONR^{48}-$, $-SO_2NR^{49}-$, $-NR^{50}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{51}-$ (wherein R^{47}, R^{48}, R^{49}, R^{50} and R^{51} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined in (9') above);

15') C_{2-5}alkynylX^8R^{37} (wherein X^8 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{52}CO-$, $-CONR^{53}-$, $-SO_2NR^{54}-$, $-NR^{55}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{56}-$ (wherein R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55} and R^{56} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore);

16') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{37} (wherein X^9 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{57}CO-$, $-CONR^{58}-$, $-SO_2NR^{59}-$, $-NR^{60}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{61}-$ (wherein R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60} and R^{61} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{37} is as defined hereinbefore); and

17') C_{1-3}alkylX^9C_{1-3}alkylR^{36} (wherein X^9 and R^{36} are as defined in (5') above)

provided that i) where R^1, R^4, R^7 and R^8 are all hydrogen and R^2 and R^3 are both hydrogen or both methoxy, R^{64} is other than phenyl; and

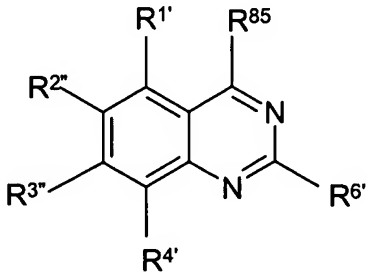
(ii) where R^1, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are all hydrogen and R^2 and R^3 are methoxy, and Z is C(O), R^{64} is other than methyl.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 20~~19 to 24~~ where X is NH.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 19 ~~to 26~~, which method comprises reacting a compound of formula (VIII')



(VIII')

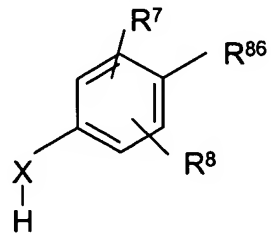
where $R^{1'}$ is equivalent to the corresponding group of formula R^1 as defined in relation to the said compound of claims 19~~ to 26~~, or a precursor thereof;

$R^{2"}$ is equivalent to the corresponding group of formula R^2 or $R^{2'}$ or R^{68} as defined in relation to the said compound of claims 19~~ to 26~~, or a precursor thereof;

$R^{3"}$ is equivalent to the corresponding group of formula R^3 or $R^{3'}$or R^{69}as defined in relation to the said compound of claims 19~~ to 26~~, or a precursor thereof;

$R^{4'}$ is equivalent to the corresponding group of formula R^4 as defined in relation to the said compound of claims 19~~ to 26~~, or a precursor thereof;[[,]]

$R^{6'}$ is a group R^6 where present in the compound of ~~any one of~~ claims 19~~18 to 26 or is hydrogen where absent~~, and R^{85} is a leaving group, with a compound of formula (IX')



(IX')

where X, R^7 and R^8 are as defined in relation to the relevant compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims ~~19 to 26~~, and R^{86} is a group of formula $NHZR^{64}$ ~~or $Y(O)R^{65}$~~ where Z and~~,~~ R^{64}~~, Y and R^{65}~~ as are defined in the relation to the said compound in ~~any one of~~ claims 19 ~~to 26~~; and thereafter if desired or necessary converting a group $R^{1'}$, $R^{2''}$, $R^{3''}$ or $R^{4'}$ to a group R^1, R^2 or $R^{2'}$ or R^{68}, R^3 or $R^{3'}$ or R^{69} and R^4 respectively or to a different such group.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula (IIA)~~, (IIB) or (VIA)~~ as defined in claim 19, ~~or claim 20 or claim 23 respectively,~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester, or amide ~~or prodrug~~ thereof~~, or a compound of formula (IIC), (IID) of (VIB) as defined in claim 21, 22 or 24 respectively, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester, or amide thereof,~~ for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body by therapy.

30. (Currently Amended)A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (IIA)~~, (IIB) or (VIA)~~ as defined in claim 19~~, or claim 20 or claim 23 respectively~~, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester, or amide ~~or prodrug~~ thereof, ~~or a compound of formula (IIC), (IID) of (VIB) as defined in claim 21, 22 or 24 respectively, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester, or amide thereof,~~ in combination with at pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein R^9, R^{10} or R^{11} are:
optionally substituted aryl selected from phenyl optionally substituted with up to 5 groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl selected from optionally substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl any of which may be optionally substituted with nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, arC_{1-10}alkyloxy, or aryl wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted arC_{1-10}alkyl selected from optionally substituted benzyl, phenylethyl or phenylpropyl, wherein the phenyl ring is optionally substituted with up to 5 groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted heterocyclyl selected from pyridyl, pyrazine, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidino, furyl, tetrahydrofuryl, oxazolyl, morpholino, thiadiazole, indolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyrazolyl, methylenedioxybenzyl, thiophene and benzothiophene, all of which may be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted C_{1-10}alkyl where optional substituents for C_{1-10}alkyl include amino, mono- or di-C_{1-4}alkylamino, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy, heterocyclyl (selected from thiophene, tetrahydrothiophene-1,1-dioxide, pyrrolidino, morpholino, furyl and tetrahydrofuryl), C_{1-4}alkoxy, acetamido, aryloxy, alkylC_{1-4}thio, aroyl where the aryl ring may itself be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro, carboxy or trifluoromethyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl or C_{3-10}cycloalkenyl; or

optionally substituted C_{2-10}alkenyl or C_{2-10}alkynyl where optional substituents for C_{2-10}alkenyl or C_{2-10}alkynyl include nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl; or

such groups are substituted by aryl, where the aryl ring may itself be substituted with halo, nitro, carboxy, trifluoromethyl.

33. (New) A compound according to claim 20, or a salt, ester or amide thereof, where X, Z, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^7 and R^8 are as defined in claim 20, and

R^{64} is optionally substituted aryl selected from phenyl optionally substituted with up to 5 groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl selected from optionally substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl any of which may be optionally substituted with nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, arC_{1-10}alkyloxy, or aryl wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted arC_{1-10}alkyl selected from optionally substituted benzyl, phenylethyl or phenylpropyl, wherein the phenyl ring is optionally substituted with up to 5 groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted heterocyclyl selected from pyridyl, pyrazine, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidino, furyl, tetrahydrofuryl, oxazolyl, morpholino, thiadiazole, indolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyrazolyl, methylenedioxybenzyl, thiophene and benzothiophene, all of which may be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl;

optionally substituted C_{1-10}alkyl where optional substituents for C_{1-10}alkyl include amino, mono- or di-C_{1-4}alkylamino, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy, heterocyclyl (selected from thiophene,

tetrahydrothiophene-1,1-dioxide, pyrrolidino, morpholino, furyl and tetrahydrofuryl), C_{1-4}alkoxy, acetamido, aryloxy, alkylC_{1-4}thio, aroyl where the aryl ring may itself be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro, carboxy or trifluoromethyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl or C_{3-10}cycloalkenyl; or

optionally substituted C_{2-10}alkenyl or C_{2-10}alkynyl where optional substituents for C_{2-10}alkenyl or C_{2-10}alkynyl include nitro, halo, carboxy, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, acetoxy, acetamido, hydroxy, aminosulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, trifluoromethyl, arC_{1-10}alkyl, or arC_{1-10}alkyloxy wherein aryl rings in the substituents may themselves be substituted with halo, carboxy, trifluoromethyl nitro or C_{1-4}alkyl; or such groups are substituted by aryl, where the aryl ring may itself be substituted with halo, nitro, carboxy, trifluoromethyl.

34. (New) A compound according to claim 20, wherein R^{64} is phenyl, 2-furan, (E)-CH=CH-phenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2-nitro-4,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,4-dinitrophenyl, 2-fluorobenzyl, cyclopentyl, 1-methylbut-3-enyl, CH_2CN, n-heptyl, 2-(methylthio)ethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, $C(CH_3)=CH_2$, 5-methyl-2-pyrazine, 3-furyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 4-acetoxyphenyl, 2-nitro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methylthiophenyl, 3-acetoxyphenyl, 4-aminosulphonyl-1-hydroxy-2-naphthyl, 2-pyridyl, 2-quinolinyl, 1,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazolyl, 2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl, 3-pyridyl, 2-chloro-3-pyridyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,3-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxy-phenyl, 3-chloro-4-carboxyphenyl, 3-nitro-4-(methylsulphonyl)-phenyl, 3-nitro-4-methoxyphenyl, (E)-CH=CH-(2-nitrophenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(3-nitrophenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(4-nitrophenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(4-chlorophenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(2,3,4-trifluoro-phenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl), (E)-CH=CH-(4-fluorophenyl), 2-indolyl, 5-fluoro-2-indolyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 3,5-dinitrophenyl, 3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl, 3-fluorobenzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, 4-(*iso*-propyl)benzyl, 3-nitrobenzyl, 2-phenoxyethyl, 2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethyl, 2-(4-chlorobenzoyl)ethyl, 3-chloro-1-propyl

3-phenoxy-1-propyl, 3-phenyl-1-propyl, 3-benzoylpropyl, dec-9-enyl,
1-methylbut-1-enyl, (2-thiophene)methyl, (3-thiophene)methyl,
2-(3-nitro-4-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl, 3,5-difluorobenzyl, 4-phenylbenzyl,
3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl, 2,6-difluorobenzyl, 4-(n-butoxy)benzyl, 3-methyl-1-butyl
pent-4-ynyl, 3-phenoxybenzyl, 3-(5-bromo-4-methoxy)thiophene,
3-(5-chloro-4-methoxy)-thiophene, 3-methoxy-4-ethoxybenzyl, 4-(benzyloxy)benzyl
3-(2-thiophene)propyl, hex-5-ynyl, 1-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopropyl, cyclopentylmethyl,
2-(cyclopentyl)ethyl, cyclohexylmethyl, 2-(cyclohexyl)ethyl, 3-(cyclohexyl)propyl
1-phenoxyethyl, (E)-C(CH_3)=CH-phenyl, 2-chloro-5-nitrophenyl, methyl, n-heptyl
2-furyl, 3-furyl, (2-thiophene)methyl, 2-indolyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl,
(3-nitro-4-(methylsulphonyl))-phenyl, pent-4-ynyl,
5-methyl-2-pyrazinyl, cyclopentyl, (cyclohexyl)methyl, 3-nitro-4-methoxyphenyl,
2-tetrahydrofuryl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, (E)-CH=CH-(4-nitrophenyl),
1,5-dimethyl-pyrazol-3-yl, cyclobutyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-nitrophenyl
cyclohexyl, 4-nitropyrrol-2-yl, 3-nitro-4-methylphenyl, 3-nitro-4-fluorophenyl,
(3-thiophene)methyl, 3-chloro-2-benzothiophene, 5-chloro-2-indolyl, (1-piperidine)ethyl,
3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, but-3-ynyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-(acetamido)ethyl,
4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl, 4-fluoro-3-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl,
4-fluorophenyl, 5-bromo-2-thiophene, 4-methoxyphenyl, 6-methyl-3-pyridyl,
5-nitro-2-furyl, 2-nitrophenyl, (E)-CH=CH-(3-chlorophenyl), 2-thiophene, cyclopropyl,
-methylphenyl
2-chlorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 2,5-dichlorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 6-chloro-3-pyridyl,
5-bromo-2-furyl, 3-nitro-2-methylphenyl, 3-chlorophenyl,
3-(tetrahydrothiophene-1-1'-dioxide)methyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-(methylthio)phenyl.

35. (New) A compound according to claim 20, where R^{64} is phenyl or halosubstituted phenyl.

36. (New) A compound according to claim 33, where R^1 is hydrogen and R^4 is halo, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkoxy.

37. (New) A compound according to claim 33, where X^1 is oxygen.

38. (New) A compound according to claim 33, where R^{15} is selected from a group (1'), (3'), (6') or (10') as defined in claim 1.

39. (New) A compound according to claim 33, where R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4}alkoxy, cyano, trifluoromethyl or phenyl.

40. (New) An *in vivo* hydrolysable ester of a compound according to claim 33, which is a phosphate ester.